

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

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FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4546

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, MY, UR

SUBJECT: BAGUIO MEETING ON SEA NEUTRALIZATION

SUMMARY: ACCORDING TO JUN 25 MFA STATEMENT, RECENT BAGUIO MEETING AGREED ON NEED FOR REGIONAL MACHINERY FOR SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES AMONG STATES IN ZONE OF PEACE, FREEDOM AND NEUTRALITY. GUARANTEES SEEM TO HAVE BEEN REPLACED BY " RECOGNITION AND RESPECT". END SUMMARY.

1. MFA JUN 25 RELEASED STATEMENT DESCRIBING RESULTS OF THIRD MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF SENIOR OFFICIALS OF ASEAN COUNTRIES WHICH WAS HELD IN BAGUIO JUN 20-22 TO DISCUSS REALIZATION OF THE OBJECTIVES OF KL DECLARATION OF NOV 1971. SUBSTANTIVE POINTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

2. " THE COMMITTEE HELD THE VIEW THAT A REGIONAL MACHINERY FOR THE PACIFIC SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTE YAMONG ZONE
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STATES WAS NOT ONLY DESIRABLE BUT ALSO NECESSARY. IT AGREED ON CERTAIN MEASURES THAT MAY BE UNDERTAKEN BY PARTIES TO A DISPUTE TO ACHIEVE ITS PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT, PRIOR TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ZONE".

3. ZOHE COMMITTEE DISCUSSED THE CONTENT AND NATURE OF THE RECOGNITION AND RESPECT OF THE ZONE AND AGREED ON CERTAIN EXPECTATIONS OF THE ZONE STATES FROM COUNTRIES WHICH WOULD RECOGNIZE AND RESPECT ZONE".

4. " THE COMMITTEE FELT THAT STEADY PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE TOWARD THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THE KL DECLARATION FOR THE REALIZATION OF THE ZONE OF PEACE, FREEDOM AND NEUTRALITY."

5. " THE COMMITTEE WILL HOLD ITS NEXT MEETING AT A VENUE AND A DATE TO BE MUTUALLY AGREED UPON AND ANNOUNCED LATER".

6. COMMENT. GOM DELEGATION JUST RETURNED KL AND EMBASSY THIS WEEK WILL ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN MORE DETAILED VERSION OF WHAT TRANSPIRED AT BAGUIO AND HOW GOM VIEWS RESULTS. MOST INTERESTING ASPECT OF STATEMENT IS THAT BIG POWER GUARANTEES, WHICH WERE IMPORTANT INGREDIENT OF ORIGINAL NEUTRALIZATION PLAN, APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN SHELVED IN FAVOR OF " RECOGNITION AND RESPECT" FOR ZONE. WHILE WE BELIEVE GOM WENT INTO MEETING HOPING TO SALVAGE GUARANTEE FORMULATION, PRESSURE OF OTHER ASEAN STATES TO SEEK TO OBTAIN LESS BINDING AND MORE FLEXIBLE GREAT POWER ROLE IN PROPOSAL APPEARS TO HAVE CARRIED THE DAY.

7. RETURNING FROM AN EIGHT- DAY VISIT TO THE USSR, ONG YOKE LIN, PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND FORMER AMBASSADOR TO US, TOLD PRESS THAT SOVIET PRESIDENT PODGORNYY WELCOMED ASIAN PROPOSAL TO MAKE SEA A ZONE OF PEACE,

FREEDOM AND NEUTRALITY. ACCORDING TO ONG, PODGORNYY " VIEWED KL DECLAR-

ATION WITH SATISFACTION". ONG CONTINUED, HOWEVER, THAT SOVIET HOPED THEIR ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY PROPOSAL " WOULD EVENTUALLY BE FRUITFUL".

CHESLAW

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